Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, lines 5-14 as follows:

A1

The ~~afore-mentioned~~ aforementioned optical pickup unit ~~further~~ may further comprise, as the optical parts, a diffraction grating for separating the laser beam produced by the semiconductor laser into three laser beams, a beam splitter for reflecting the three laser beams from the diffraction grating and for transmitting the return beam, a collimator lens disposed between the beam splitter and the rising mirror, and a concave lens disposed between the beam splitter and the photodetector. In addition, the ~~afore-mentioned~~ aforementioned optical pickup unit ~~further~~ may further ~~comprises~~ comprise, as one of the optical parts, a forward sensor for monitoring a light amount of the laser beam which is produced by the semiconductor laser and which is partially transmitted through the beam splitter.

Please amend the heading at page 3, line 15 as follows:

A2

Brief Description of the ~~Drawing~~ Drawings:

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 9-15 as follows:

A3

As described above, in the existing optical pickup unit having a structure in which the semiconductor laser LD and the photodetector PD are separately arranged with each other, to make the height measure H of the optical pickup unit small must lower heights of the beam splitter BS, the rising mirror MIR, and the photodetector PD and must minimize external forms of the objective lens OL[[.]], the collimator lens CL, concave lens EL, and the laser diode (semiconductor laser) LD.

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, line 24 to page 11 line 13 as follows:

A4

Disposed this side, the semiconductor laser LD' radiates a laser beam in a forward direction with the laser beam inclined to downwards for a horizontal surface (the pickup's lower surface) by the angle α. The outgoing laser beam is separated into three laser beams by the diffraction grating GRT (Fig. 1) and is bent at a right angle by the beam splitter BS' to go leftward with the three laser beams inclined to downwards for the horizontal surface by the angle α. In addition, the beam splitter BS' separates the incident laser beam into a reflected beam and a transmitted beam at a constant ratio. For example, the beam splitter BS' reflects 80% of the incident laser beam as the reflected beam and transmits 20% of the incident laser beam as the transmitted beam. The forward sensor FS (Fig. 1) monitors a light amount of the transmitted beam from the beam splitter BS'. The laser beam, which goes leftward with inclined to downwards for the horizontal surface by the angle α, is collimated into a collimated beam by the collimator lens CL' and thereafter is bent at a right angle by reflecting at the reflecting surface of the rising mirror MIR' to go

A4 cancel.

vertically upward. The laser beam, which goes vertically upward, is converged (irradiated) on a signal recording surface of the optical disk ~~Disk~~ Disc through the objective lens OL'.

Please amend the paragraph at page 11 lines 11-21 as follows:

A5

Reflected by the signal recording surface of the optical disk ~~Disk~~ Disc, a reflected beam (return beam) goes vertically downward, passes through the objective lens OL', and is bent at a right angle by reflecting the reflecting surface of the rising mirror MIR' to go rightward with the return beam inclined to upwards for the horizontal surface by the angle α. The return beam, which goes rightward with inclined to upwards for the horizontal surface by the angle α, is detected by the photodetector PD through the collimator lens CL', the beam splitter BS', and the concave lens EL'.